



# HIV Among Arab Americans, Michigan



## Number of Cases and Recent Trends:

- The number of HIV-positive persons of Arab descent is underestimated, because information on Arab ethnicity has only been routinely collected by the HIV surveillance system since 2001.
- The MDCH has documentation of 126 HIV-positive persons of Arabic descent to date (92 of whom are living).

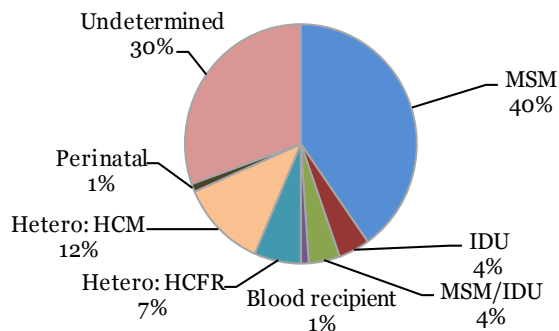
## Demographics:

- Males account for 84 percent of living Arabic HIV cases in Michigan.
- Almost half (44%) of the male Arabic HIV infections were attributed to men who have sex with men (MSM), including MSM/IDU.
- The distribution of age at diagnosis of individuals of Arabic descent is similar to all persons living with HIV with 33 percent between the ages of 30 and 39.

## Other Facts:

- Within the U.S., the largest population of Arab Americans live in Dearborn, Michigan.
- The Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services (ACCESS) conducted 15 rounds of focus groups with men in the Arab American community between the ages of 13-58 who identified as gay or bisexual. The majority (95%) were Arab or Chaldean and resided in the Metro Detroit area.
- About 80 percent of the ACCESS focus group attendees rarely negotiated safer sex practices with their partners.

Arab persons living with HIV infection in Michigan by risk transmission category, January 2012 (n = 92)



## Program Efforts:

- In Michigan, Arab American MSM is one of the highest priority target populations when it comes to HIV prevention and care services. In response, MDCH HAPIS (HIV/AIDS Prevention and Intervention Section) provides federal funding to community based organizations to conduct HIV testing and individual level prevention counseling to support this population, specifically in the Detroit Metro Area.

Michigan Department  
of Community Health



Rick Snyder, Governor  
James K. Haveman, Director

## For more information:

Michigan Department of Community Health  
HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program

(248) 424-7910

(517) 335-8165

([www.michigan.gov/hivstd](http://www.michigan.gov/hivstd)) → HIV/AIDS → Statistics and Reports)  
State of Michigan HIV/AIDS Statistics and Reports

Michigan Department of Community Health  
HIV/AIDS Prevention and Intervention Services  
(517) 241-5900

([www.michigan.gov/hivstd](http://www.michigan.gov/hivstd)) → HIV/AIDS → Prevention and Care)  
State of Michigan HIV/AIDS Programmatic Information

Michigan Counseling, Testing, & Referral Sites  
[www.inspot.org/michigan](http://www.inspot.org/michigan) --click "get checked"

Michigan AIDS Hotline 1-800-872-2437